

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating a patient having a spinal cord injury, the method comprising:
  - electrically stimulating the site of the spinal cord injury; and
  - administering a purine nucleoside or analog thereof to the patient;wherein nerve function through said injured spinal cord is at least partially restored.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising implanting a device into the patient, which device electrically stimulates the site of the spinal cord injury.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein the device is an oscillating field stimulation device.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the purine nucleoside comprises inosine.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the purine nucleoside or analog thereof is administered to the patient systemically.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the purine nucleoside or analog thereof is administered orally or subcutaneously.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the purine nucleoside or analog thereof is administered locally to the site of the spinal cord injury.
8. The method of claim 7 further comprising implanting a device into the patient, which device locally administers the purine nucleoside or analog thereof.
9. The method of claim 1 wherein the spinal cord injury occurred more than three months prior to the treatment.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the patient is a human.
11. The method of claim 1 wherein the patient is a domestic pet.
12. The method of claim 1 wherein said restoration of nerve function evidenced by restoration of nerve impulse conduction, a detectable increase in conduction action potentials, observation of anatomical continuity, restoration of more than one spinal root level, an increase in reflex behavior, or combinations thereof.
13. A method for treating a patient having a spinal cord injury, the method comprising:
  - electrically stimulating the site of the spinal cord injury; and
  - administering a purine nucleoside or analog thereof to the patient;wherein nerve regeneration at the site of the spinal cord injury is stimulated.
14. A method for treating a patient having a spinal cord injury, the method comprising administering to the patient a purine nucleoside or analog thereof under conditions effective to restore nerve function through said injured spinal cord.
15. A method for treating a patient having a spinal cord injury, the method comprising administering to the patient a purine nucleoside or analog thereof under conditions effective to stimulate nerve regeneration at the site of the spinal cord injury.
16. A kit for the treatment of a central nervous system injury, the kit comprising a means for the application of an electrical stimulation to the injury site and a purine nucleoside or analog thereof.
17. The kit of claim 16, wherein the means for the application of an electrical stimulation to the injury site comprises an oscillating field stimulation device and the purine nucleoside or analog thereof comprises inosine.

18. The kit of claim 16, further comprising a device for the subcutaneous, intravenous, or intrathecal delivery of the purine nucleoside or analog thereof.

19. The kit of claim 16, further comprising written instructions for the treatment of a central nervous system injury.